

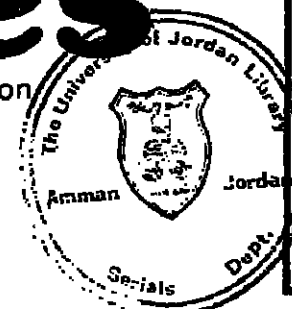
Storm hits California coast

LOS ANGELES (R) — Nine people were killed by a storm which sent six metre high waves pounding onto the California coast destroying or damaging more than 1,000 houses, police said Friday. Several thousand people moved into emergency shelters as the Pacific waves Thursday hit luxury beach homes of millionaires and film stars, swept away parts of three piers, and flooded other residential and business areas. California Governor George Deukmejian declared the counties of Los Angeles, San Diego, Marin and San Mateo disaster areas as a first step to asking President Reagan to grant federal aid. Heavy seas swept away a 100-foot (30 metre) section of the 67-year-old Santa Monica pier, backdrop for countless films.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"



Japan may aid Beirut force

TOKYO (R) — Japan is studying a U.S. request that it share the cost of the international peace-keeping force in Lebanon and will probably discuss it with Secretary of State George Shultz next week, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday. Mr. Shultz, who arrives on Sunday for a four-day visit, made the request at a meeting with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in Washington earlier this month, the officials said. They declined to comment on a report by the Mainichi Shimbun newspaper that Japan would contribute \$20 million a year to the force, comprising 4,100 U.S., French and Italian soldiers.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Soviets brief U.N. on Cosmos 1402

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Soviet Union has told the United Nations that the nuclear fuel core of its Cosmos 1402 spy satellite will burn up completely on entering the earth's atmosphere between Feb. 3 and 8. In a note made public Friday, Moscow also officially notified Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that the main part of the satellite entered the atmosphere over the central area of the Indian Ocean at 1.10 a.m. Moscow time last Monday (2210 GMT Sunday) and "ended its existence." The four-ton Cosmos 1402, launched last Aug. 30 to track shipping, began to drop out of orbit earlier this month. The Soviet Union gave the U.N. details about the spacecraft under the terms of an international convention on the registration of objects launched into outer space.

Reagan asks Vietnam for news about missing POWs

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan asked Vietnam Friday for more news of Americans still listed as missing in the Indochina war, to end what he called the unspeakable anguish of their families. Washington estimates that 2,494 servicemen, most of whom served in Vietnam and others in Laos, are missing, and believes some are still alive as prisoners of war. White House National Security Adviser William Clark Thursday told the families that Hanoi's alleged withholding of information about the men was "brutally cruel and unfair." The families gathered Thursday on the 10th anniversary of the Paris peace accord signed by the United States and Vietnam formally ending the war in which 57,999 Americans died. Vietnam has returned the remains of a number of Americans, but successive administrations since the U.S. withdrew from Indochina in 1973 have said the Hanoi government has not done enough.

France to deploy new squadron of missiles

PARIS (R) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu Friday declared operational a second squadron of advanced thermonuclear missiles at a ceremony in southern France where they are deployed, ministry officials said. The nine new missiles, known as S-35, are each equipped with a one-megaton warhead and have a range of more than 3,000 kilometres, the officials said. The French S-35 form part of the force which the Soviet Union recently suggested should be a factor in calculating European missile reductions at U.S.-Soviet disarmament talks in Geneva. Both French President Francois Mitterrand and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher firmly rejected the principle if Moscow's offer to Washington to reduce the number of Soviet nuclear missiles pointed at Europe to the combined number of French and British missiles.

5 Japanese parties to demand Tanaka's resignation

TOKYO (R) — Five opposition parties Friday agreed in principle to demand the resignation from parliament of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka for his alleged role in the Lockheed bribery scandal, parliamentary sources said. The move follows the demand made on Wednesday by the public prosecutor for a five-year jail sentence for Mr. Tanaka, 64, main defendant in the six-year-old trial. Verdicts are not expected until October. Mr. Tanaka has pleaded not guilty to charges of taking a 500 million yen (\$2.1 million) bribe from Lockheed during his term of office to try to persuade Japan's all Nippon Airways to buy aircraft from the American company. Secretary-generals of the five opposition parties are expected to meet Saturday to formalise Friday night's accord and discuss ways to strengthen their position against Mr. Tanaka, who is still considered Japan's most influential politician.

30 feared killed by car bomb

Huge explosion rocks Shtoura

BEIRUT (R) — Up to 30 people were feared killed by a car bomb explosion in the town of Shtoura in east Lebanon Friday, according to casualty estimates reported by state radio.

The radio said estimates of the death toll in the Syrian and Palestinian-controlled town ranged from six to 30. The blast demolished a three-storey building on the road leading north out of Shtoura, it said. Syrian troops immediately blocked the main Beirut-Damascus Highway, which runs through Shtoura, as fire engines raced to the scene.

Tanzania tries 27 soldiers for attempted coup

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — A group of 27 soldiers and civilians appeared in court in Tanzania Friday charged with attempting to overthrow the government. Radio Tanzania said. The radio, quoting Inspector General of Police Solomon Liani, said the accused were remanded in custody to appear in court again at a future unspecified date. Mr. Liani said investigations in connection with the case were continuing.

King Hassan, Mitterrand leave for Marrakesh

RABAT (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand left Rabat Friday with King Hassan by car and train for the southern Moroccan city of Marrakesh to spend two days devoted to political talks and a colourful ceremonial.

Rural towns on the route were preparing a welcome for the French leader, who arrived in Morocco Thursday. He said Thursday night he would find time for "profound conversations without bustle" during his stay and indicated he and the king would discuss Chad, Namibia, the Western Sahara, the Gulf war, the Middle East and bilateral relations.

Mr. Mitterrand is accompanied by six cabinet ministers who discussed economic cooperation projects, many with French aid. In Marrakesh Saturday, he is due to meet political leaders and give a news conference before attending the opening of a dam at Ait Chouar in the Atlas Mountains. After spending Sunday on a private visit, he returns to Paris that night.

Earlier in Rabat, President Mitterrand said France would be ready in principle to supply nuclear plants to Morocco.

Italy faces row over alleged sacking of ENI ex-chairman

ROME (R) — A political row erupted Friday over the state energy corporation ENI after an ex-prime minister hinted that its chairman may have been fired because he was probing a scandal involving oil purchases from Saudi Arabia.

The government announced on Tuesday that Umberto Colombo had resigned after three months as ENI chairman. It was the sixth change of leadership at the powerful group in four years.

Mr. Colombo said in an interview published Friday by the Rome newspaper Paese Sera that he had been sacked in a political dispute over top management appointments.

At the same time, Giulio Andreotti, a Christian Democrat who headed several governments in the 1960s and 1970s, expressed his suspicions about the real reason for Mr. Colombo's departure in a letter to Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani.

"I hope Mr. Colombo was not sacked because he contributed to taking the lid off the murky business surrounding the ENI-Petromin affair," Mr. Andreotti said in a reference to alleged kickback payments in a deal between

The radio said the building had been used by "a number of non-Lebanese armed groups."

Unconfirmed reports by radio stations close to Lebanon's main Christian militia said the building had been a Palestinian command headquarters.

A mysterious anti-Palestinian and anti-Syrian organisation called the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to a news agency in Beirut.

It is not known who is behind the group, which has claimed responsibility for a series of car bomb attacks against Palestinian and Syrian targets in Lebanon over the past two years.

State television later reported artillery duels in the mountains between Shtoura and Beirut, an area torn in recent months by clashes between Christian and Druze armed groups.

The Front for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners also claimed responsibility for an explosion Friday in a building next to

the headquarters of one of Beirut's main left-wing Muslim organisations, the Murabitoun.

But another telephone caller said the Beirut attack, which caused no casualties, was carried out by a group named "the Forces of the Cedars," a previously unknown organisation.

The caller said the explosion was a warning to Murabitoun leader Ibrahim Koleilat and his followers to leave Beirut permanently.

Mr. Koleilat has spent much of his time in Europe since the evacuation of his Palestinian commando allies from Beirut last year, but Murabitoun radio said he was in his office at the time of Friday's blast.

Republicans ask Reagan, Bush to run for next term

WASHINGTON (R) — The Republican Party's national committee Friday formally called on President Reagan and Vice President George Bush to run again in 1984, a move aimed at heading off any potential challenge from other Republicans to the incumbents.

The committee also elected Senator Paul Laxalt of Nevada, a close Reagan ally, to the newly-created post of party general chairman and a Laxalt protégé, Frank Fahrenkopf, as regular party chairman.

Although the President has not announced whether he will seek re-election, Mr. Laxalt said he

Lebanon, PLO, to discuss withdrawal

BEIRUT (R) — A senior Lebanese army officer is to visit Tunisia for talks with Palestinian leaders on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan said Friday.

Official sources said Brig. Nabil Kuraitem would go to Tunis Friday and that Mr. Wazzan might meet Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat there on Monday.

Mr. Wazzan, speaking to reporters before leaving for an international seminar on reconstruction in Zurich, said he hoped to visit Tunisia but gave no date.

Israeli forces drove PLO commandos from their bases in South Lebanon and Beirut last year but the Palestinians still have positions in the north and east of the country.

Sharon visits Beirut

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon visited Beirut Thursday and held talks with Christian leaders and the commander of the Falangist forces there, Israeli newspapers reported Friday.

They said he also called on the widow of assassinated President

Bashir Gemayel and laid a wreath at his grave.

Both afternoon papers carried separate interviews with Mr. Sharon. They reported him as saying he would prefer to see both Israeli and Syrian early-warning stations in southern Lebanon than no Israeli station there.

U.S., Israel agree to stop harassment of Marines

BEIRUT (R) — U.S. diplomats and military officers met Israeli counterparts in Beirut to work

them out of the Israeli army, Maj.-Gen. Amir Drori. The United States had protested about several occasions on which Israeli troops tried to push past U.S. Marine checkpoints on the edge of Beirut. The Israelis countered with a series of accusations that commandos mounting attacks on Israeli troops were taking refuge behind the U.S. lines.

The embassy said a good understanding was reached on preventing further incidents, but

neither Mr. Laxalt nor Mr. Fahrenkopf faced opposition in Friday's party leadership shift.

Outgoing Chairman Richard Richards, whose insistence on independence for the party organisation had caused friction with some White House aides, retired Friday at the end of his term.

Mr. Laxalt, 60, a conservative former governor of Nevada, is a close friend and adviser of Mr. Reagan and acts as his means of liaison with right-wing Republicans in Congress.

They said he also called on the widow of assassinated President

lined to give details. Israeli military sources said they would meet up with the Marine command and the Israeli local command to deal with any future incident.

The sources said the two sides also agreed that a disputed railway line round Beirut should be the dividing line between U.S. and Israeli areas of operation.

But a company of U.S. Marines stationed beyond the railway line in the Science Faculty of the Leb-

anese University of Beirut would remain with the full agreement of the Israelis, the sources added. There are 1,200 U.S. Marines in Beirut serving with some 3,000 French and Italian soldiers in a force charged with protecting the civilian population and assisting the Lebanese army in restoring government authority.

The force was sent last September after Lebanese Christian militiamen massacred hundreds of civilians in Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

He said Mr. Mubarak also told them he believed all other Arab government leaders wanted peace with Israel even though they could not say so publicly.

He said Mr. Mubarak did not

King to address European Parliament later this year

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein is to address a plenary session of the European Parliament, probably later this year.

A spokesman for parliamentary speaker Piet Dankert said this was agreed at a meeting between King Hussein and Mr. Dankert in Brussels Friday.

King Hussein is on the third day of a visit to Belgium, where he has had talks with European Community and Belgian leaders on latest Middle East peace developments.

In his talks with Mr. Dankert, he repeated his view expressed in discussions here Thursday, that early progress was needed in Middle East peace moves as the situation remained critical.

Diplomats said King Hussein sees Washington playing the central role in Middle East peace diplomacy. He was more likely to urge further pressure on the United States to maintain its interest in Middle East peace than make a dramatic appeal, diplomats said.

No exact date was fixed for the King's visit.

The spokesman for Mr. Dankert said the visit would be preceded by a mission to Jordan and Egypt by a team of European members of parliament at the end of March or in early April.

The head of the mission, Belgian Liberal Luc Beyer de Ryke, will also be visiting Syria, he

added.

On Thursday official talks between the Jordanian delegation headed by His Majesty King Hussein and the Belgian delegation headed by Prime Minister Wilfried Martens began here.

The talks dealt with relations between the two countries and ways to develop them, particularly in economic, trade and social fields.

The delegations also discussed the economic and technical cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries in 1976 and ways to establish joint projects by the private sectors of the two countries.

The two delegations also discussed the current international situation and made a comprehensive review of the latest developments in the Middle East and the efforts being made to find a just and durable solution of the Palestinian issue.

King Hussein explained the results of his recent visits to several countries as part of his efforts to save Palestinian lands and rights.

They also reviewed the role which Belgium could play within the EEC group to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Attending the talks from the Jordanian side were the Royal Court chief, the foreign minister, the president of the National Pa-

liamentary Council, and the Jordanian ambassador to Belgium.

Attending from the Belgian side were the foreign minister, the foreign trade minister, a number of high-ranking officials and the Belgian ambassador to Jordan.

King Hussein received at his residence in Brussels later Thursday President of the European Economic Community (EEC) Gaston Thorn. They discussed relations between Jordan and the EEC and ways of developing these relations for the benefit of the two sides.

Mr. Thorn expressed the EEC support of the King's efforts and endeavours to achieve just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Martens Thursday hosted a banquet in honour of King Hussein and Queen Noor. In a speech on the occasion Mr. Martens praised bilateral ties between Jordan and Belgium and reiterated Belgian support to Jordan's development plans.

Mr. Martens also praised Jordan's foreign policy and pledged support for the implementation of the Venice Declaration.

King Hussein, in his reply, expressed thanks for Belgian support of Arab causes and called for continued support for current Arab efforts for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Full text of King's speech on page 2

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Full text of King's speech on page 2

Indian cabinet offers to resign

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian ministers have offered to resign to let Prime Minister Indira Gandhi reshuffle her cabinet and sort out problems in her Congress (I) Party, sources in the party said Friday.

The sources had conflicting information, however, about how many ministers were involved.

Mrs. Gandhi, asked by reporters Friday whether she would make cabinet changes, replied: "I do not know. I cannot announce it to you."

The Congress (I) image has been tarnished by in-fighting in several states and by heavy defeats in elections this month in its two former southern strongholds, the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

The party faces important local elections in Delhi and the northeast next month.

Indian political commentators have forecast that Mrs. Gandhi would try to give both government and party a new look in time for the polling.

She has already begun overhauling the party, appointing Congress veteran Kamalapati Tripathi to assist her in her function as party chief.

The commentators did not expect her to replace key ministers like finance or foreign affairs, because the budget is due next month and India hosts the Non-Aligned summit in March.

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King urges Belgium to support Arab efforts for Mideast peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has called on Belgium to continue its support for Arab causes and back current Arab efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

King Hussein, who is on an official visit to Belgium, was speaking at a banquet Thursday hosted by Belgium Prime Minister Wilfried Martens, in honour of the King and Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The King also raised "the constructive role" played by Belgium in search of peace in the Middle East.

Following is the full text of King Hussein's speech:

Excellency, distinguished guests

It pleases me on behalf of Queen Noor and myself, and on behalf of the Jordanian delegation, to express our appreciation for this opportunity of visiting your beautiful and friendly country.

We were very delighted to meet Their Majesties King Baudouin and Queen Fabiola, and are moved by their warmth and hospitality, and deeply proud of our friendship.

Jordanians remember warmly the state visit of Their Majesties in

our country in 1964. Their Majesties captured our hearts through their dignity, humility, and genuine interest and concern for people, peace, and human dignity and rights.

Queen Noor joins me in looking forward to the privilege of reciprocating Their Majesties' gracious hospitality in Jordan before too long.

Excellency,

I appreciate your kind words regarding my person and Jordan's continuous search for a just peace in the Middle East.

As you correctly noted, the area we live in has witnessed a prolonged period of human suffering, the continuation of which, unfortunately and unnecessarily, prevails.

The last 35 years saw a multitude of missed opportunities for the establishment of a just and durable peace, and may I add, through no fault of ours.

I will not dwell, Excellency, on Jordan's perseverance in the sea-

rch for an equitable settlement that accommodates the legitimate aspirations, rights, and concerns of all the parties to the tragic conflict.

Suffice it to note that we have cooperated with all efforts aimed at achieving a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in the Middle East based on the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 of November 1967 with its clear equation of total withdrawal for total peace. For such peace to prevail and endure, the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people must obviously be recognised and accommodated.

Within this context, we welcomed the European community Venice Declaration of June 1980 as a positive contribution, and cooperated with the Thorn and Van der Klaw missions.

In the continuing search for this noble goal of peace, Jordan and the rest of the Arab World, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, formulated a joint stand and agreed on a realistic framework for peace in the area, based on United Nations resolutions.

Excellency,

The Kingdom of Belgium has played a constructive role in the

search for peace in the Middle East.

In this respect, and in recognition of the important position your country rightly occupies in Europe, we call on you, as a friend, to continue to support our efforts and be our partner in our dedicated search for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in our area, and for a better future for all mankind.

The Arab position is compatible with the Venice statement and the degree of mutual understanding which exists between us is truly heartening.

I hardly need to mention that our region's conditions have a direct bearing on the welfare, stability, and security of Europe, and in the world in general.

Excellency,

You referred in your statement to the good relations which happily exist between our two countries. We are pleased too with their steady progress and consolidation in many fields and areas, we are desirous of accelerating the pace of our cooperation in the times to come.

There are many opportunities in Jordan for sound commercial investment and we hope that your nationals and corporations will join us in achieving further, mutually beneficial, cooperation.



The Bahraini heir-apparent, Sheikh Hammad bin Issa Al Khalifah, is seen off Thursday by His Royal

Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. (Petra photo)

Sheikh Hammad leaves after visit

AMMAN (Petra) — The Bahraini heir-apparent, Sheikh Hammad bin Issa Al Khalifah, left Amman Thursday at the end of a private visit to Jordan which lasted several days. During the visit, Sheikh Hammad met with His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Sheikh Khalifah was seen off at the airport by Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and a number

of high-ranking officials.

On Thursday, Sheikh Hammad, in his capacity as commander-in-chief of the Bahraini armed forces, visited the Jordanian Armed Forces General Command. He was met by Jordanian Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid bin Shaker, Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb and senior army officers.

South Korea expresses keen desire for just solution to Palestine problem

By Afifah A. Kaloti

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — South Korean interests in the Middle East are based on a sincere desire to find an everlasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, a high-ranking Korean official said Thursday.

South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Ro-Myung Gong, who left Amman Friday after a three-day visit, added: "We hope that there will be some sort of a settlement and an everlasting stability that can be firmly reached."

He added the Palestinian question should be solved in a just manner and in this respect Korea supports the position of Jordan in the Middle East, he said. "We support United Nations Resolution 242 and we recognise the Palestinian legitimate right," he declared.

"The main aim of my visit to Jordan is to explore my government's approach in support of Arab causes in the international forum, to explore ways and means of our friendly relations, and to observe as well as orientate myself in the region," Mr. Gong told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Gong, who, during his visit, held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Acting Foreign Minister Hassan Ibrahim, Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour and several senior officials, described the talks as being

"successful and fruitful."

"After meeting with several senior officials, I could say that my visit was successful in enhancing and strengthening the two countries' bilateral relations and fruitful in the sense that it gave me a personal chance to get acquainted with Jordan and the region," Mr. Gong said.

Mr. Gong said that the volume of trade between Jordan and South Korea is almost \$50 million. But, he added, "trade is recognised as one-way traffic."

"We are trying very hard to compensate the one-way traffic by promoting the purchases of Jordanian products to be used in other countries and areas," he said.

Phosphates, he added, are needed in fertiliser products in Korea but "we have to wait sometime to diversify our source of supply."

Enumerating trade items exported to Jordan, he gave precedence to textiles. "Textiles have been leading industry since the sixties and now we have other leading industries such as shipbuilding, electronics and electrical appliances," Mr. Gong said.

Steel products needed in public works, electrical items, leather, particularly foot-wear, and cars are the other trade items to Jordan, he added.

Korean prices, he pointed out, are competitive all over the world. He added that their prices will always be relatively competitive in

accordance with the general economic situation.

"Promotion of political and trade relations between Jordan and South Korea are not our only targets," he said. "To contribute to the economic trend of the Jordanian government, we are trying to promote our economic operations in Jordan such as in public works and participating in the constructions of infrastructure."

Main Korean contracts in Jordan are the building of the Wadi Arab and King Talal dams, a health spa in Ma'an and a few commercial buildings.

Referring to Korean labourers in Jordan, Mr. Gong said, that they are mostly technicians, engineers and skilled workers. The number of Korean labourers fluctuates depending on the size of work, he said. "This year's statistics show that there are 1,500 Korean labourers in Jordan while last year there were 1,900 workers."

He added that "strict enforcement of Korean labour regulations and observing certain standards of the welfare and utilising the personnel in efficient management along with certain Jordanian policies of labour entry are the elements that sometimes limit the number of Korean labourers in Jordan."

"Our government does not have any specific number-wise limits but has to exercise certain restrictions regarding efficiency," Mr. Gong clarified.

Six new ambassadors present credentials

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday received the credentials of six newly appointed ambassadors to Jordan. They were: Richard Kelt of Australia, Pyare Lal Santoshi of India, Phibly Sessco of Guinea, Noor Adlan Ibn Yahya of Malaysia, Sovat Naboyata of Thailand, and Mohammad

Muhsin of Bangladesh.

The presentation of credentials ceremony was attended by Court Minister Amer Khammash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Acting Foreign Minister Hassan Ibrahim and officials of the Royal Court.

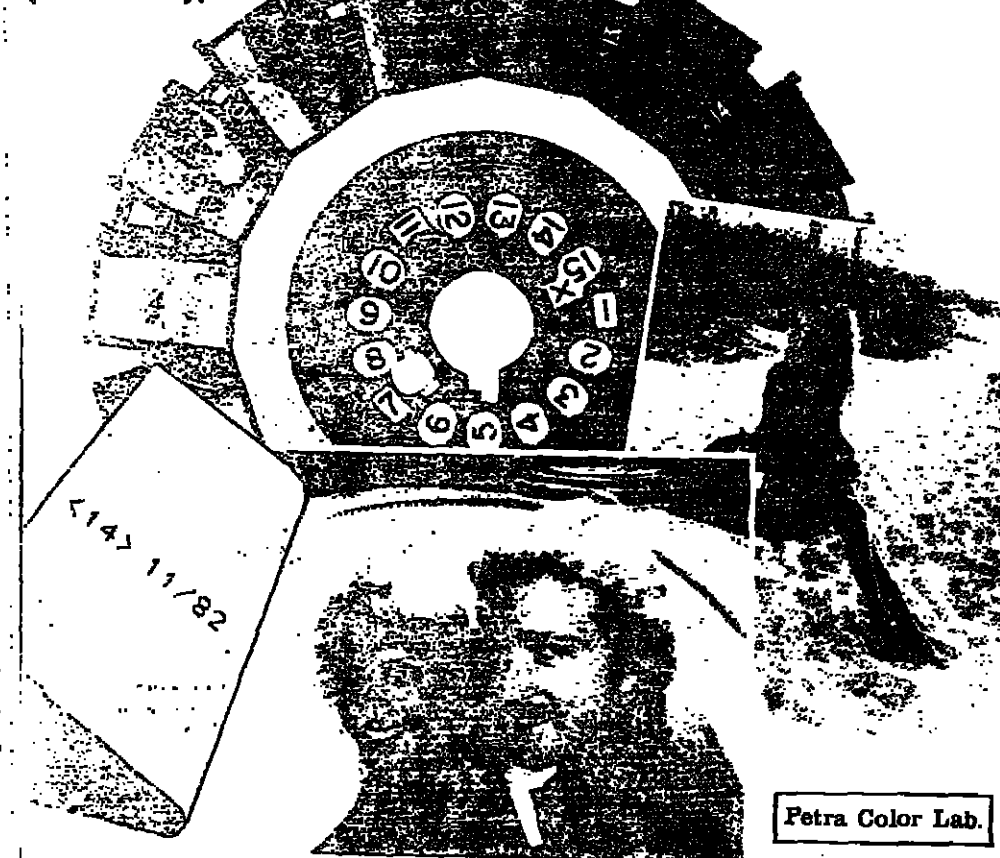


His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Thursday receives credentials of the newly appointed ambassadors of (clockwise) Australia, India, (Petra photo).



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Lena	Wadi Saqra	" Zohrab	Jabal Amman

Sharif returns from Mecca

AMMAN (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Kamel Al Sharif returned to Amman Friday after attending the eighth session of the International Higher Council of Mosques held in Mecca.

Mr. Sharif said the council discussed the conditions of the world's Muslim minorities and adopted several resolutions to establish Islamic centres and institutions in different parts of the world. He said the council also discussed Muslim-Christian dialogue and reaffirmed the rules which should govern these talks in the future.

Mr. Sharif also said that the council discussed current political issues such as the Palestinian, Lebanese and Afghanistan issues, as well as the "cultural challenge posed to Muslims, particularly by the Zionist movement."

Red Crescent officials back from Manama

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Jordanian National Committee of Red Crescent Society Ahmad Abu Oqurah and Executive Committee member Muwaffaq Al Zu'bi returned to Amman Wednesday after participating in the 14th conference of the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies concluded in Manama, Bahrain.

Dr. Abu Oqurah told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the conference decided to assist the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and the Lebanese Red Cross Society to help victims of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

He added that the conference appealed to Arab charitable soc-

ieties to continue their aid to victims of the recent earthquakes in North Yemen.

Dr. Oqurah said the conference called on Iraq and Iran to stop the war "in order to spare further bloodshed." It also appealed to the International Committee of the

Red Cross (ICRC) to intensify its efforts to apply the 1949 third Geneva agreement on prisoners of war to the Iran-Iraq war by both seeking to obtain lists of those imprisoned and granting permission for visiting them to get acquainted with their conditions.

3,000 housing units planned near new airport

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing Corporation has completed plans for an integrated housing project comprising 3,000 units in the Queen Alia International Airport neighbourhood, the corporation's director-general, Hamdullah Al Nabulsi, said Thursday.

Celebrating the allocation of housing units of the Prince Talal bin Mohammad Housing Project in the Yajouz area, Mr. Nabulsi said the corporation is outlining a comprehensive housing strategy

in Jordan based on functional needs for satisfying housing requirements stipulated by government officials. He called for close cooperation among residents of housing projects to ensure a "rich social life based on national characteristics."

The detached housing units distributed Thursday numbered 102, each costing JD 7,250, which will be repaid by the residents through monthly instalments of JD 41 per month.

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ECWA experts end visit

AMMAN (Petra) — U.N. Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) experts: Mohammad Abdul Wahab and George Al Osaia Thursday ended a week-long official visit to Jordan.

The two experts delivered a series of lectures in a course on advanced methods of conducting family surveys held in Amman under the supervision of the Baghdad-based Arab Institute for Statistical Research and Training, in cooperation with the Department of Statistics in Jordan. Taking part in the course are employees of various statistics departments in the Arab World.

Construction sector to hold meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting of people working in the construction industry will be held Saturday at the Amman Chamber of Industry to discuss ways of developing this sector. The construction sector is one of the biggest in Jordan since there are some 20 shareholding construction companies investing about JD 145 million in construction.

Invitations to fairs

The chamber has also received invitations to participate in three international fairs in West Germany and one in Bahrain. During the first and second fairs, to open in Cologne simultaneously on Feb. 27, various types of ready-made clothes will be exhibited.

At the four-day third exhibition, which will open in Frankfurt on March 22, sanitary, central heating and cooling equipment will be displayed.

The fourth fair, which will be held in Bahrain, will exhibit various types of industrial products. The chamber has circulated the invitations to its members inviting their participation in these fairs.

Incentives seminar concludes at RSS

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on employee incentives, organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in cooperation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, was concluded here Thursday.

The three-day seminar dealt with a number of topics, particularly material needs, job security and self-fulfilment at work, and the aim of the seminar was to raise the efficiency of the 25 participants, according to the RSS.

RSS Director-General Albert Butros, addressing the participants, called on them to make good use of what they have learned in the seminar. Dr. Butros also handed over certificates of attendance to the participants, who included 11 persons from the Kuwaiti institute.

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مكتبة العامة

Europe stumbles in space race to catch up with America

By David Marsh

PARIS — In the early hours of Sept. 10, a rather unorthodox gearbox — in a highly inconvenient place — 200 kilometres up in the equatorial night sky over the Atlantic and travelling at 7 kilometres a second — suddenly decided to stage a protest strike.

The gearbox was running a turbo-pump turning at 61,000 revolutions per minute pumping liquid hydrogen and oxygen, at temperatures varying between -250 degrees C and 800 degrees C, into the third stage of the European space rocket Ariane.

The gears ran perfectly for four minutes eight seconds. Then, finally, the turbine speed dropped by two-thirds. Just 14 minutes after blast off from French Guiana on what was supposed to be the rocket's first operational flight, \$50 million-plus worth of sophisticated machinery and electronics — including two gleaming new satellites planned to have been put into orbit — plunged unceremoniously into the ocean.

The failure was one of the most dramatic blows so far to Europe's French-led hopes of competing with the U.S. in the commercial exploitation of space.

More than prestige is at stake. All-seeing American and Soviet "spy" satellites now girdling the earth form the "high ground" from which, military planners believe, will be decided the outcome

of any armed confrontation between the super-powers.

In the same way, the civil telecommunications and TV satellites planned by many countries over the next few years also represent strategic assault points. They form the key to the commercial and cultural wars which will be waged among nations in the rapidly-growing electronic media and information business.

The issue of who has jurisdiction over messages and images beamed from space has already divided the U.N. and international telecommunications organisations. On the industrial side, the battle is not only among specialised aerospace and electronics companies in the U.S. and Europe, but also among the host of media, publishing and computer concerns linked up to the ground networks of future satellite systems.

After the Ariane crash — its second in five launches so far — the U.S. space agency NASA sent a telegram of condolence to the European Space Agency (ESA), the 11-nation group which coordinates Europe's space activities.

The Americans can afford to be magnanimous. For not only in launches with the space shuttle and conventional rockets, but also in the crucial business of making

satellites for both home and export markets, the U.S. is well ahead.

The Americans' natural lead in space has lengthened by rivalries and feuding in Europe. The competition centres on France, which aims to use its dominant position in the European space race as a key economic tool to help boost high technology industries.

Widespread plans for television cabling in Britain, West Germany and France, being pushed actively by all three governments, go hand in hand with the satellite industry.

Television satellites of the sort which all three countries (and several other European nations) are planning can be used to beam programmes down either directly to households equipped with dish aerials or to relay stations from which the message can be sent to homes by cable.

Some satellite plans, in both industrial countries and the Third World, have been put back by the recession and technical hitches.

However, M. Jean-Pierre Chevenement, the French research and industry minister, who can always be relied upon to enthuse over new technology, has spoken of 500 civil satellites encircling the globe during the 1990s, of which 40 will be for direct TV systems.

Networks enabling

computer-stored information, telephone communications and images to be received on the same terminal will "transform one of the fundamental elements of our civilisation."

Underlining the nationalistic sentiments at stake, he adds that French companies need to be present in the new markets to help preserve "the French life, culture and language."

ESA officials joke that Ariane, 60 per cent of whose \$1 billion development costs have been put up by France, is labelled a French rocket in the Paris Press when it goes up, and a European one when it comes down.

Yet whatever its mishaps so far — and accidents are inevitable in the early stages of any unmanned rocket programme — Ariane is unmistakably a pan-European project.

The same unity is not apparent in satellite-making. European manufacturers and users are split up into separate groupings competing against each other.

This has given the American satellite companies — particularly the world leader, Hughes — more or less free rein in the world market.

Whatever the dreams about winning big orders abroad from Third World countries, European companies so far have clinched

just one external communications satellite order. This was for the Arab League's satellite, Arabsat, won by Aerospatiale of France. And even this was in co-operation with Ford Aerospace of the U.S.

There are plenty of voices calling for greater European unity. The man who might be called Europe's Mr. Space is Professor Hubert Curien, president of France's national space agency CNES and also chairman of the Council of ESA — two jobs which, because of almost constant sparring between the organisations, require a diplomat's talent to combine.

"Europe undoubtedly has too great a diversity in satellite product lines," he says. One of his priorities, he adds, is to try to bring about more "cohesion" among the competing families of satellite makers.

Herr Johannes Schubert, head of the space division of Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm, Germany's leading space company, says that EEC companies bidding for satellite orders on the world market are in the same unfavourable position compared with the U.S. as European aircraft companies were vis-a-vis Boeing before the Airbus consortium was founded.

He calls for greater government help to boost satellite orders —

offering export guarantees, for instance, as in the case of the Airbus.

At British Aerospace, Mr. Colin Wearmouth, in charge of business development at the space and communications division, also says that European satellite industries will have to come together into "effective teams."

ESA itself has been greatly irritated in the past by Franco-German efforts to go it alone in commercial satellites. M. Alain Pingliet, in charge of the agency's telecommunications missions, says that Europe may be at the "bottom of the curve" in satellite co-operation. "We may now be on the way up," he says.

However, up to now it has been all words and no action. The Germans, infected by the French enthusiasm for national satellites, are planning a new advanced telecommunications satellite project on which the final decision will be taken in the spring.

Partly to provide domestic jobs, this looks likely to be built by a mainly German consortium led by Siemens and Messerschmitt — which will add one more to Europe's fragmented "family" of satellite makers.

For a mixture of political and commercial reasons, there is also considerable rivalry among potential satellite users.

There is also a good deal of bickering between ESA and the telecommunications, ESA finds itself not only the natural target for attacks from CNES but also from the French Post Office — a powerful combination.

The French and Germans decided to split off from the ESA grouping in direct TV satellites at the end of the 1970s because they felt that the agency was too lumbering and bureaucratic an animal.

The Germans in particular attack ESA's rival L-SAT TV satellite scheme as costly and inefficient. "It is a wonderful technological toy — but not exportable," sneers one industrialist. A German ministry official in Bonn charges that ESA is "slow" in reacting to commercial possibilities and has insufficient control of costs.

ESA says it is aware that its job is not to commercialise satellites but to prompt industry to do so, at a pan-European level.

Meanwhile, back at the sharpest competitive end of the space market, Ariane planners are trying to assess the commercial damage caused by the rocket's September crash.

Since then, the U.S. Space Shuttle has made its first operational launch — putting two communications satellites perfectly into geostationary orbit, 36,000 km above the earth, along the way.

The next Ariane launch, originally planned for last November but now not expected at least until April, will be of "capital importance," says Herr Klaus Isenhardt, deputy director general at Arianespace, the commercial organisation, owned mainly by the French, set up to market Ariane flights.

The overall cost of the delay is put at around \$30 million — chicken-feed compared with the amounts at stake.

Arianespace itself has firm orders worth about \$500 million for satellite launches in the mid-1980s. Since the September failure, both Mexico and Australia have booked the Space Shuttle rather than Ariane for future launches.

Arianespace held a presentation in Washington in November for U.S. clients — including such giants as General Telephone and Electric, Western Union and Southern Pacific — to explain the rocket's crash. "They gave us a rough time," admits Herr Isenhardt.

The only tangible result of the setback so far, Arianespace feels, is the Mexican decision. But it knows that no more orders will be signed until the next Ariane has rocketed safely up into the sky.

— Financial Times news feature

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Jabbal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Holidays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Montazah, Jabbal Luveth-el. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays, 3.30-6.00. Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240. Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, 43453. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, 71331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah, 75261. 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ARRIVALS 06:45 Cairo (EA) 06:50 Beirut (RU) 09:15 Abu Dhabi (RU) 09:30 Jeddah (RU) 09:35 Karachi, Dhakar (RU) 09:40 Doha (RU) 09:45 Kuwait (RU) 10:15 Beirut (RU) 10:50 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA) 11:00 Abu Dhabi (SA) 14:35 Kuwait (KAC) 16:00 Belgrade (RSCG) 16:15 Cairo (RU) 16:55 Frankfurt, Geneva (RU) 17:15 New York, Vienna (RU) 17:30 Copenhagen, Athens (RU) 18:05 Rome (ALC) 18:15 Cairo (RU) 18:20 Athens (GA) 20:30 Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH) 20:30 Beirut (MEA) 22:30 Cairo (RU) 00:30 Cairo (EA) 00:45 Baghdad (RU) 01:45 Cairo (EA) DEPARTURES 04:45 Cairo (RU) 06:00 Larnaca, Frankfurt (Lufthansa) 07:00 Athens, Paris (AF) 07:50 Cairo (EA) 08:45 Beirut (MEA) 11:00 Vienna, New York (RU) 11:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RU) 12:15 Athens (GA) 11:55 Athens, Zurich (Swissair) 12:05 London (RU) 12:05 Frankfurt, Brussels (RU) 12:15 Geneva, Paris (RU) 12:30 Cairo (RU) 14:30 Cairo (RU) 15:30 Kuwait (KAC)		18:30 Baghdad (RU) 18:45 Beirut (RU) 19:00 Kuwait (RU) 19:00 Doha, Abu Dhabi (GA) 19:30 Jeddah (RU) 20:00 Cairo (RU) 20:15 Baghdad (RU) 20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RU) 21:30 Baghdad (JA) MONEY EXCHANGE Local sell-buy rates in figs Belgian franc 74.31 Dutch guilder 132.2 Egyptian guinea 327.2 French franc 51.3 Iraqi dinar 381.2 Italian lire (for 100) 25.3 Japanese yen (for 100) 149.2 Kuwaiti dinar 1216.8 Lebanese lira 90.1 Omani riyal 1016/1027.2 Qatari riyal 26.8 Saudi riyal 102.7 Swedish crown 47.8 Swiss franc 177.9 Syrian lire 61.8 UAE dirham 66 U.S. sterling pound 547 U.S. dollar 355.5 W. German mark 145.5/146.4 WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. There will be an increase in temperature with light and variable wind becoming southerly moderate. In Amman winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg.C Amman 9/10 Aqaba 6/18 Deserts -1/12 Jordan Valley 3/17 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 7, Aqaba 15, Humidity readings: Amman 50 per cent, Aqaba 31 per cent.		EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 75111 Fire, police 199 Blood bank 7512 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 22090-3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 56390 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 71125-8 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Alkhat Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabbal Amman Maternity 42362 Al-Muhsin Hospital 36140 Palestine, Shamsiah 664171-4 Shamsiah Hospital 669131-5 University Hospital 845845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. 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SPORTS

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Injury-hit Tottenham fight for English F.A. Cup survival

LONDON (R) — Injury-hit Tottenham will be fighting to keep their season alive when they meet West Bromwich in Saturday's fourth round of the English Football Association (F.A.) Soccer Cup.

Having been bundled out of the European Cup Winners' Cup by West Germany's Bayern Munich last November, Tottenham crashed out of the English League Cup last week and have slipped to exactly halfway in the first division.

Now the F.A. Cup represents Tottenham's only chance of lifting any silverware this season, and if they do so, they will become the first side this century to win the trophy three times in succession.

But Tottenham's bid to enter the history books is being plagued by a series of injuries, which has left them without Mike Hazard

and England midfielder Glenn Hoddle for Saturday's match—one of five all first division ties.

Manager Keith Burkinshaw has dropped Scottish international striker Steve Archibald for the first time since he arrived from Aberdeen more than two years ago and has recalled Garth Crooks to the attack.

But Argentine Ossie Ardiles has recovered from a shoulder injury and is down to play. West Bromwich striker Cyril Regis, who fractured a cheekbone last week, is replaced by Nicky Ross.

Fears that Aston Villa's bloody clash with Barcelona in the European Supercup final on Wednesday would leave them depleted for the visit of second division neighbours Wolverhampton have not materialised and their only injury worry is Gary Shaw, who is

having treatment for a hamstring strain.

Dennis Mortimer and Mark Jones, who both missed Wednesday's match, are also doubtful starters.

Lowly first division side Luton may recall leading scorer Brian Stein, who has been out for seven weeks with a broken bone in his right foot, for the visit of second-placed Manchester United.

And Ipswich internationals John Wark and Terry Butcher are both battling to get fit for the clash with second division Grimsby, who include former Ipswich striker Trevor Whymark in their line-up.

Whymark, who spent 10 years at Portman Road and scored 74 goals in 260 League Games, is now player-coach with the second division club.

England, New Zealand face injury problems for World Series match

ADELAIDE (R) — England and New Zealand both face injury worries to key players as their teams prepare for Saturday's crucial triangular World Series one-day match here.

England's main fitness worry is Ian Botham who has a strained side and was only able to bowl two overs in England's 98-run victory over Australia in Sydney on Wednesday.

Botham did not bowl in the nets Friday but England manager Doug Insole said he was confident the Somerset all-rounder would be able to play.

New Zealand captain Geoff Howarth underwent an extensive fitness test Friday and will consider using pain killers Saturday. Howarth has been suffering

from a pinched nerve in his back and was forced to leave the field in the match against Australia last Saturday.

He said after practice Friday he was optimistic about playing but would wait to the last minute before making a decision.

Howarth said New Zealand would play the same side who beat Australia by 58 runs in Melbourne.

Howarth also paid tribute to the England side, saying they were the team he feared most.

"England's experience in one-day cricket is beginning to show through. They play this type of game well, they're a very cool side," he said. "We have a little more respect for them at the moment. Australia seem to rely on their

bowlers to make the breakthrough and they just haven't been doing this in the last couple of matches."

England and New Zealand are equal with six points, although New Zealand have a game in hand over England who have played seven games.

Rummenigge to stay with Bayern

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, West Germany's World Soccer Cup captain, has ended speculation that he was about to move to Italy by agreeing to extend his present contract with Bayern Munich by two years.

The extension, finalised Thursday night when club president Willi Hoffman met Rummenigge in a restaurant here, will keep the 27-year-old striker at Bayern until 1987.

Rummenigge, twice voted European Footballer of the Year, has frequently mentioned his desire to play in Italy this season, but denied suggestions that he did so to improve his terms with Bayern.

"I feel in my element here," he said Thursday night. "I am glad that all this commotion about me is over."

Hoffmann added: "Our future looks a lot clearer. Now we can concentrate on the last stages of the Bundesliga (soccer league) and the European Cup Winners' Cup."

Club officials said the extension included assurances of commercial contracts for Rummenigge when his playing career ended. Sources said Rummenigge earned at least 400,000 marks (\$164,000) a year with Bayern plus advertising income.

National soccer team defeat visiting Romanians

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian national soccer team defeated the visiting Romanian first division team Asia Armat 2-1 Friday. The match, played at Al Hussein Sports City stadium.

The match is part of the Jordanian national team's preparations for the Los Angeles Olympics qualification rounds to be held this year.

Seb Coe returns to the track

WOLVERHAMPTON, England (R) — Britain's Sebastian Coe is ready to shrug off a cold to make his return to the track at an indoor athletics meeting near here on Saturday.

It will be Coe's first race since defeat in the European Championship 800 metres final in Athens last September brought his injury hit season to an end.

Coe, the reigning Olympic 1,500 metre champion and 800 metre world record holder who is due to compete in a 3,000 metres at Oxford, said Friday: "It looks for the moment as if I shall be there."

Mind you, the blank-faced long-nosed ferret with the stony concentration and the irrefragable top-spin pass was by no means the greatest interviewee. A few years ago in Dallas he curtly refused to grant me a whole day with him. Up at dawn, I watched him practise for two hours. Twenty minutes on his first serve, another 20 on his second... 20 minutes back hand... 20 minutes forehand. Twenty minutes right-hand tramline corner... 20 minutes left and tramline corner...

We went back, me, him and his new young wife, Mariana, to fruit juice with room service... he lay on

his bed, still in his tracksuit, minutely examining the give or tension of his racquets, picking at them or plunking at the meat with the heel of his hand. Would he win Wimbledon again? "My game is good. I am pleased," he said as if he was talking about someone else.

What was the secret? "I suppose because I always manage to win the big points. I win points when it matters, I think."

Honestly, I could not think of anything else to say. My "day" with the champ had lasted two hours and 10 minutes and I made my excuses and left. At his bedside as well as tennis racquets in a pile were a number of American horror comics. And the bathroom was untidily full of bottles and potions. One was advertised to rid the owner of "schoolboy's spots."

Now the double-edged quality that set him apart on the court is, on his own admission, blunted. The desire has gone and the discipline has gone. Practice, repeat practice, repeat practice... the thirst for hard labour is quenched. At 26 the 10-year stretch is over.

On Saturday he prayed for guidance at a Buddhist temple in Bangkok. He says the gods released him, but in fact I bet it was some passing, throwaway omen of the east that convinced him the time to go was now. He has always been very very superstitious and marriage to the Romanian, Mariana, has surely fostered it.

In fact the whole Borg family are superstitious. When he was winning his 1979 Wimbledon title his mother, Margarethe, was sucking a boiled sweet in the stand, which she always did whenever she watched a final set. Borg reached triple match point, but when Tanner rallied to deuce Mum spat out the sweet on to the grimy floor. She knew she had to pick it up and pop it back into her mouth immediately. Borg won.

— Guardian

The champ ends his royal progress

By Frank Keating

A NEW sporting argument springs from the traps with Bjorn Borg's retirement: was the deadpan Swede the greatest-ever player of lawn tennis since Major Clouston-Wingfield first "invented" the game in 1869?

On balance, I would think he was: considering the steady upward graph outlined by performances in solo track and field events due, I suppose, to more technical study, more social and financial incentive, more dedication, a sharper appreciation of such presumed necessities as psychology and diet.

In terms of greatness—while Muhammad Ali made no bones about reminding you of it—the likes of Nicklaus, Bradman and Piggott have only to point to the record books and then rest their case. The same with Borg who won Wimbledon—still generally accepted as the world championship—an unprecedented five times, and laid waste more serious tournaments he entered, though the fact that he was never victorious in the U.S. Open must have ranked as he packed his racquets for the last time on Sunday before waddling away with that rolling, bowlegged cabin boy's gait.

Now the double-edged quality that set him apart on the court is, on his own admission, blunted. The desire has gone and the discipline has gone. Practice, repeat practice, repeat practice... the thirst for hard labour is quenched. At 26 the 10-year stretch is over.

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— Guardian

Clash between marathon giant set for April

AUCKLAND (R) — The first clash between the world's two fastest marathon runners, Alberto Salazar of the United States and Australian Robert de Castella, is expected to take place here in April, New Zealand sports promoter Ian Gamble said Friday.

He told reporters that he was confident of finding enough sponsorship money for the race, which was to have been held in Queensland, Australia, until the promoters there failed to find sponsors.

The New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association has already

approved the race, scheduled for April 17.

Salazar set a world-best time for the 26 miles, 385 yards of two hours, eight minutes, 13 seconds when he won the New York marathon in 1981. De Castella, the Commonwealth champion, ran five seconds slower when he won the Fukuoka marathon in Japan in 1980.

Gamble said other competitors included Britain's Hugh Jones and Bernie Ford and top-ranked New Zealanders Rod Dixon, Kevin Ryan and Ian Ballinger.

India-Pakistan 5th test abandoned as draw

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — The fifth cricket test between Pakistan and India was abandoned as a draw here Friday when rain washed out play on the fifth and final day.

Thursday was also a complete washout with India 235 for three in their first innings in reply to Pakistan's 323 all out.

The match was called off Friday after continuous overnight rain had left the Gaddafi stadium ground under pools of water.

Both teams now travel to Karachi where the sixth and final test begins on Sunday.

Pakistan have an unbeatable 3-0 lead in the series after winning the second test at Karachi by an innings and 83 runs, the third at Faisalabad by 10 wickets and the fourth at Hyderabad by an innings and 119 runs.

The first test, played here, was also a rain-interrupted draw.

Rohrl wins Monte Rally

MONTE CARLO (R) — West German Walter Rohrl completed a comfortable Monte Carlo Rally victory in his works Lancia Friday.

The 35-year-old Bavarian, who went on to claim his second world title after winning the alpine classic last year, finished the seven-day test almost seven minutes clear of his team mate Markku Alen of Finland.

It was the first major success for the Lancia rally which made its international debut less than a year ago. A triumph which became all too predictable once Rohrl had left the Audi Quattro of initial pacesetter Stig Blomqvist of Sweden trailing in unseasonably mild weather which created almost ideal road conditions.

Blomqvist, missing the advantage of four-wheel drive on snow, eventually finished over 11 minutes adrift of Rohrl, but in spite of his inexperience with the car he outshone team mate and pre-rally favourite Hannu Mikkola of Finland, who had to settle for fourth place.

Rohrl, first in an Opel Ascona last year—he joined the Italian team after clinching the world crown—registered his first Monte success in a Fiat Abart in 1980. He also won the world drivers' title on that occasion.

Rohrl said: "It was a dream rally and unquestionably my easiest victory. I had no problem whatsoever with the car or with the tyres."

After winning nine of the 14 timed stages on the second leg, Rohrl wisely eased up on the final overnight section, held on the twisting roads above the principality.

His teammate Jean-Claude Andruet of France did not miss the opportunity to shine in front of partisan crowds. He put the 295 brake horsepower Lancia through its paces and won six of the 10 speed trials for eighth place overall.

The Italian manufacturers' celebrations were completed as Frenchman Francis Serpagy finished ninth, leaving four Lancias in the top 10.

Former world champion Ari Vatanen of Finland and 1981 Monte winner Jean Ragnotti of France were never in contention for overall honours, finishing fifth and seventh in a works Opel Ascona and factory Renault 5 Turbo respectively.

The women's cup went to Britain's Louise Aitken, 50th overall in an Alfa Romeo. The feat was last achieved by a British driver over 10 years ago when Pat Moss-Carlson won the award for an eighth and last time.

Mikkola was not disappointed by his performance. "I was quite pleased to finish. Under such weather conditions, it was impossible to fare better because although very powerful (around 340 horse power) — the Audi is still a big car," he said.

"The Lancias' victory here isn't a surprise," he added.

Patrick Landon, head of the Renault sport rally team, echoed Mikkola's words when he said that the Lancia belonged to a new generation of tailor-made rally cars but that it would not stand alone for long.

Renault, Ford, Mitsubishi and Peugeot all have race-car concept rally cars in the pipeline.

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The only direct flight NEW YORK by MEA

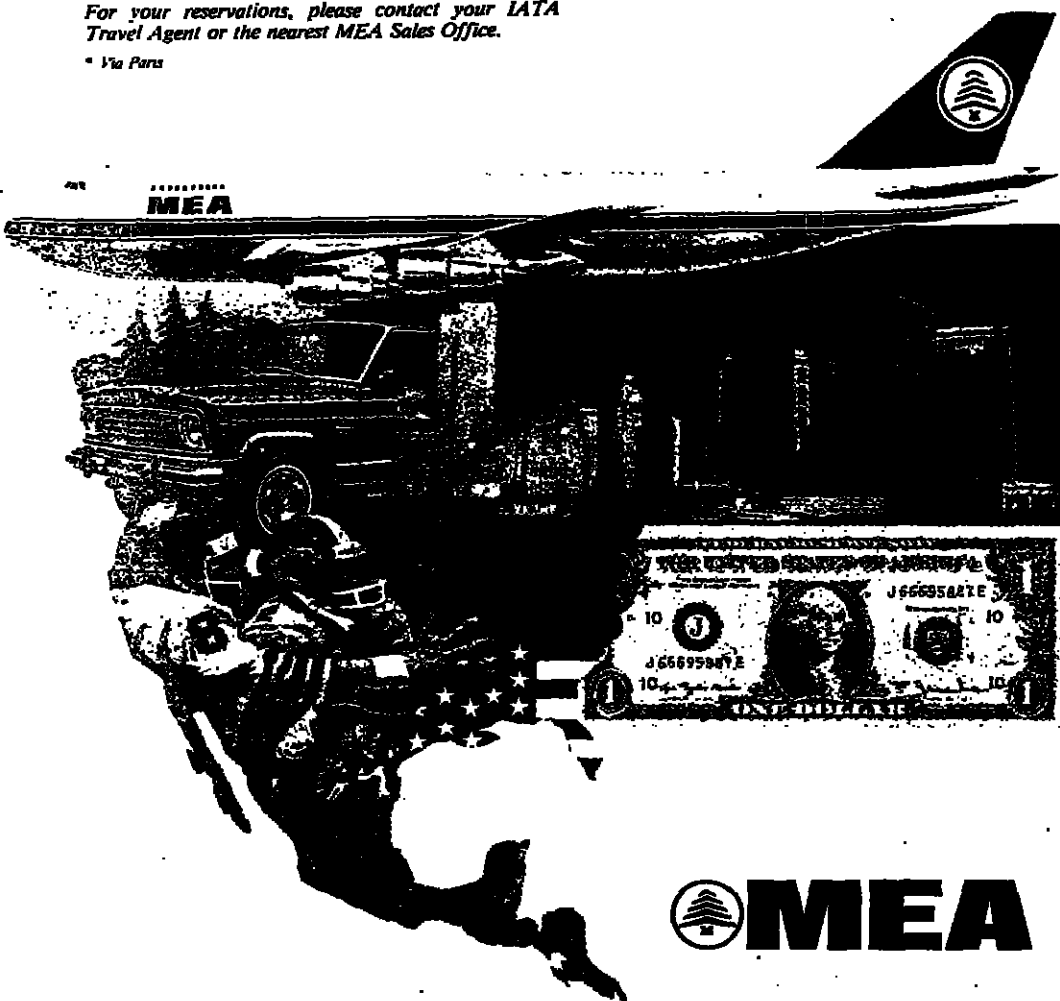
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The Ministry of Education, Projects Directorate announces invitation to bid for the following packages which are parts of the 3rd Educational project:-

1. Chemistry
2. Lab. Chemicals
3. Physics
4. General Science
5. Biology
6. Lab. Furniture

Companies and agents of manufacturers are invited to collect copies of these tenders from the Projects Directorate situated in Abdali, behind the Public Security Headquarters building, against payment of JD 5 for each tender.

Starting Jan. 29, 1983
Closing date will be at 10 A.M., April 25, 1983

Projects Director

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TO LET

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كسب المال

ECONOMY

U.S. adopts aggressive stance on trade issues

WASHINGTON (R) — While preaching a doctrine of free trade and open markets, the Reagan administration is adopting an aggressive stance on trade issues in the face of what it sees as unfair competition from abroad.

Administration officials say that while they favour trade without barriers, the U.S. cannot tolerate trade deficits anywhere near last year's record \$42.7 billion.

In recent weeks, the administration has threatened cut-price sales of large amounts of surplus food, amassed in the past two years because of bumper crops, unless the Common Market halts its subsidies of grain exports.

Washington this month sold Egypt one million tonnes of surplus flour worth an estimated \$150 million in what officials said was retaliation against the European Community's export subsidies.

And the government's International Trade Commission recently recommended to President Reagan that he raises from 4 to 49 per cent the import tariff on motorcycles to protect the lone

U.S. maker, Harley-Davidson.

The Milwaukee, Wisconsin, firm sought help because Japanese manufacturers such as Honda, Yamaha and Suzuki have captured 94 per cent of the \$4.5 billion a year U.S. market.

The recommendation gives President Reagan a weapon to use in dealing with Japan, which accounted for over 40 per cent of the U.S. trade deficit last year.

In his state of the union address, Mr. Reagan said he would pursue an aggressive export policy to open doors now closed to American goods, a major part of his plan to revive the economy.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and special trade representative Bill Brock are both heading for Tokyo soon to follow up Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's visit earlier this month to Washington during which U.S. officials urged him to be more accommodating to U.S. exports.

Mr. Brock told reporters after Mr. Nakasone left that "this may be the most difficult year in two decades to fight protectionism."

The administration has been resisting legislation pending in Congress that would require a substantial percentage of the parts used in cars sold in the U.S. to be manufactured here, a move designed primarily to thwart Japanese car producers who sell one in five cars bought by Americans.

The grim recession that has idled over 12 million workers in America, or 10.8 per cent of the workforce, has pushed trade issues to the forefront and put politicians here in a combative mood to win equal treatment abroad for U.S. exports.

Japan provided the most visible evidence that the U.S. was paying a punitive price for its open-door trade policy.

While the American market was flooded with Japanese goods from cars to television sets, Tokyo kept its barriers raised against

products from overseas including many farm products, according to U.S. officials.

They have been pressing Japan to accept more U.S. citrus fruit and beef as a way of easing trade tensions.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has a system for reviewing such complaints but U.S. officials believe the structure is cumbersome and should be streamlined.

At a recent ministerial meeting of the Geneva-based GATT — the first in nine years — many of these issues were discussed and it was agreed to explore them further in the months ahead.

Although unhappy at the meeting's failure to reach any concrete decisions, U.S. officials think it served as an impetus for getting debate moving on some trade complaints.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities were below the day's best levels in active trading on the sharp Wall Street gains Thursday night, dealers said. Some new time buying was noted, they added.

Oils were firmer with B.P. and Shell up 4p at 316 and 410 respectively while leading industrials were mostly 2p to 4p higher but ICI jumped 32p at 402 on strong U.S. buying interest. The F.T. index at 1500 Friday was up 5.3 at 616.9.

Government bonds were quietly firmer on the steadier level of sterling with gains extending to 4 point in longer dated issues, dealers said.

Gold was mostly lower but North Americans were higher. London brick was up 1½ at 128 and Redland up 3p at 238 after their respective takeover bids for Istock Johnson were referred to the Monopolies Commission. Istock fell 2p to 96.

Broken Hill fell 10p at 328 after agreeing to pay General Electric \$2.40 billion cash for the Utah group of companies. John Brown rose 1p to 20 despite reporting pre-tax losses. In firm banks Barclays and Lloyds were up 13p at 418 and 433 respectively while life insurers finished off the highs.

Aberthaw fell 8p at 590 on further consideration of the merger agreement with Blue Circle, which advanced 2p at 423.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.5355/65	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.2355/58	Canadian dollars	
	2.4378/88	West German marks	
	2.6781/91	Dutch guilders	
	1.9940/55	Swiss francs	
	47.75/80	Belgian francs	
	6.9125/75	French francs	
	1413.75/1414.75	Italian lire	
	236.75/90	Japanese yen	
	7.4321/70	Swedish crowns	
	7.1251/31	Norwegian crowns	
	8.5675/5750	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	492.75/493.75	U.S. dollars	

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan records 2.7% inflation rate

TOKYO (R) — Japan's inflation rate last year was 2.7 per cent, the lowest since 1959, the prime minister's office said Friday. This compares with a rate of 3.9 per cent the U.S., 5.4 per cent in the U.K., 4.6 per cent in West Germany and 16.3 per cent in Italy. In December prices were still falling in Japan. The consumer price index at the end of the month was 0.2 per cent lower than November.

Officials up Panama Canal tolls

PANAMA CITY (R) — The board of directors of the Panama Canal Commission Thursday unanimously approved a 9.8 per cent increase in Panama Canal tolls. A statement issued by the nine-member board said the fee increase would serve to compensate in part losses suffered by a reduction in the transit of oil tankers from Alaska because of a Pacific-Atlantic pipeline now in operation.

GM, Chrysler to recall workers

DETROIT (R) — General Motors (GM) and Chrysler Thursday announced plans to recall thousands of laid-off car workers as projected higher car sales indicated the industry may be recovering from recession. GM, the largest U.S. car manufacturer, said it would call 21,400 of its 168,000 laid-off employees back to work at plants around the country within three months. Chrysler, the third largest, said it would rehire 1,100 workers and up to 400 clerical and administrative employees.

Argentina orders 37% pay rises

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's military government has ordered pay rises of up to 37.5 per cent for the first quarter of this year to compensate for an annual inflation rate of 209 per cent.

IDA may start borrowing

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank affiliate which makes interest-free loans to the world's poorest countries, may have to start borrowing to supplement grants from donor countries, IDA officials said Thursday. The current worldwide recession has made IDA financing difficult because requests for its help are increasing at the same time as wealthy states are reviewing their grants to it.

U.K. payments surplus falls

LONDON (R) — Britain's export earnings hit a record high in December but over the whole of last year the country's balance of payments surplus fell, according to estimates issued by the trade ministry Thursday. The figures also showed that, without North Sea oil, Britain's balance of payments would only just be in the black. The ministry estimated that in 1982 the trade surplus was £2.17 billion (\$3.34 billion) compared with a £2.98 billion (\$4.58 billion) surplus in 1981.

French proposal pleases Spain

BRUSSELS (R) — Spain said Friday it was pleased with a French proposal that the European Community hold parallel talks with other Mediterranean countries on how they would be affected by Spanish membership in the Common Market.

China to expand foreign ties

JAVOS, Switzerland (R) — China will expand economic cooperation with foreign countries in the next five years to modernise its industrial technology, a Chinese official said Friday. Mr. Yi, vice-chairman of the State Economic Commission, told a press conference that China would import 3,000 items of new technology during this period to re-equip its small and medium-size enterprises.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today's new aspects can bring you all sorts of opportunities, so be alert at all times. Make sure that you understand with clarity just what others are expecting of you now.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Find out how you stand with others and do whatever is needed to improve relations. Strive for increased happiness.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make new acquaintances who can help to enrich your life in many ways. Attend a group meeting that is worthwhile.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study your surroundings and make plans for improvement. Allow time to engage in favorite hobby with congenials.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take part in new activities that are fine for you but first know all the facts concerning them. Think constructively.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Loved one may have a change of attitude, so go along with new ideas for best results. Take it easy tonight and express happiness.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Show more interest in civic affairs and gain the respect of others. Make this a most worthwhile and productive day.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Improve your environment so that it is more inspiring and brings you greater comfort. Come to a better understanding with mate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Listen to what a good friend has to suggest for greater pleasure ahead. Take health treatments and improve your appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get rid of whatever is causing disharmony at home and be happier in the future. Put your talents to work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure to study a new project well before you put it in operation. Don't take any risks that could prove costly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make long-range plans that could give you added income in the future. Come to a better understanding with family members.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You are likely to be upset about matters you can't change, so concentrate on whatever brings you inner peace.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who can understand both sides of a situation, so teach to stand up for what is right and success and happiness will follow. Be sure to give ethical and religious training early in life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Metal prices rise

LONDON (R) — Metal prices on the London markets rose Friday to their highest levels for many months on speculative hopes that the long-awaited recovery of the American economy is at hand, traders said.

Strong demand for aluminium drove the market price up to £10 a tonne to a 32-month high at £759, while copper was at its strongest for over a year and a half and tin for nearly a year.

Dealers said that it had been expected that aluminium prices would be among the first to respond to any upturn in economic activity which would increase industrial demand for metals.

And Thursday night's announcement by two major U.S. car producers, General Motors and Chrysler, that they are recalling thousands of laid-off workers because of the improved outlook for car sales, had given a boost to metal prices generally, they noted.

Copper prices rose £5.50 a tonne to £1,073, their best level since June 1981, while tin advanced £80 a tonne to its highest point for 11 months at £8,030.

But the sources said that the metal buying remained highly speculative, based on expectations of a rise in commercial demand rather than on any signs that industry had already begun to increase its purchases.

Prices in London have also been buoyed by the continuing weakness of sterling against the dollar and this outweighed a slight fall in the gold price Friday as a factor in the market, dealers said.

Despite the dip in gold's value to \$493 an ounce from Thursday's close at \$495, silver prices reached a 27-month high Friday of \$93 pence an ounce (\$13.75).

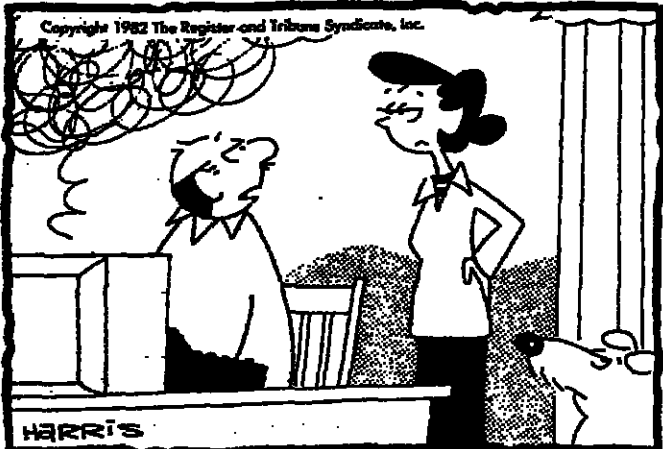
Prices on some of the so-called "soft" commodity markets also advanced strongly.

Cocoa prices jumped around £17 a tonne from Thursday to £1,262, their highest since October 1981.

Dealers attributed the strength of the cocoa market to the fact that the first time for several years demand in 1983 is likely to outstrip supplies.

The price of coffee for future delivery rose around £20 a tonne to £1,733, partly reflecting the success of the international coffee agreement in reducing amount of the commodity reaching the world market, they said.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

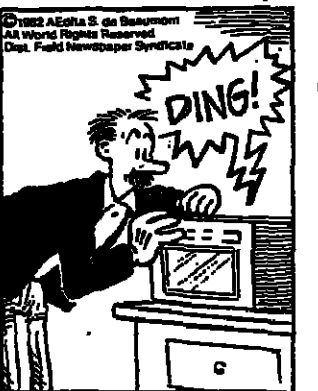


"I fed our marital problems into the home computer and it blew up!"

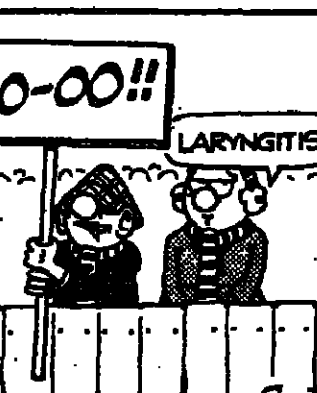
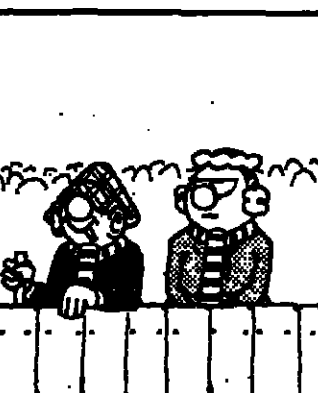
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

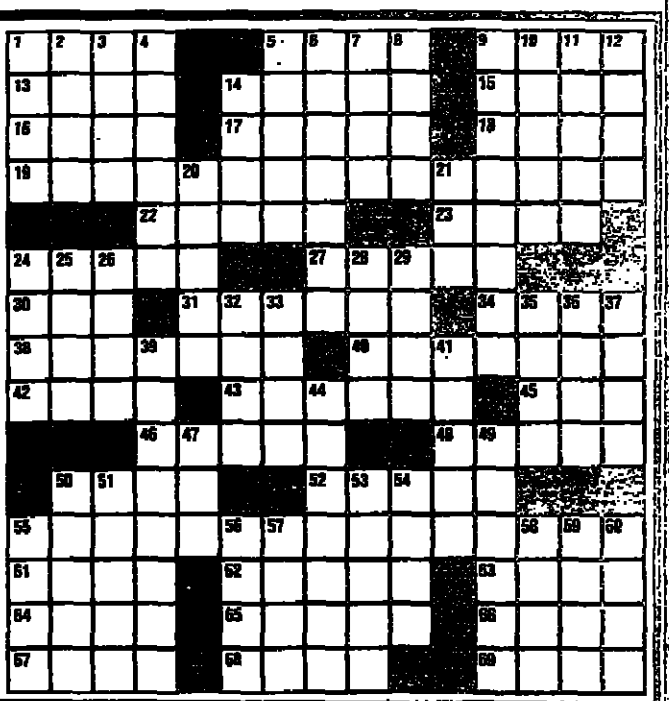


THE Daily Crossword by Elaine D. Schorr

- ACROSS**
- Shatter-brained
 - Spee
 - Isaiah
 - Slippery — eel
 - Gangster
 - Barley
 - product
 - Dengue transmitter
 - true
 - Haphazardly
 - Heraldic inscription
 - Aware of
 - Item of value
 - Use up
 - Card game
 - Loom
 - Forget about
 - Stump, for one
 - Every which way
 - Soviet mountain range
 - Hardy's pal
 - Timetable abbr.
 - Made a lap
 - Bowl
 - Minuscule amount
 - Cadiz' country
 - Haphazardly
- DOWN**
- Author of "Old Familiar Faces"
 - "— can you see"
 - Leg part
 - Promptly
 - Exalted
 - Rudolph's claim to fame
 - Did what I did
 - Heraldry
 - Atlas table
 - earth (expose)
 - Better ingredient
 - Play company
 - In a — (troubled)
 - Make right
 - In good shape
 - "Tattoo"
 - Down at the heels
 - Great Lake
 - Pippin
 - Stringed instrument
 - Verdi
 - up on (study)
 - DOWN
 - Author of "Old Familiar Faces"
 - "— can you see"
 - Leg part
 - Promptly
 - Exalted
 - Rudolph's claim to fame
 - Did what I did
 - Heraldry
 - Atlas table
 - earth (expose)
 - Better ingredient
 - Play company

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

CORINUS DAVIS SAND
ONEUP ARRIP AFAR
ODINADILLIN LOVE
ATIES BRICHOED
BARKED BRICKLE
BUES SAE EUL
ELL WERE ACERB
WILLIAMEROCKLEY
SCOUT ERIC CAR
CWA GAB BILLE
SKIRTS BORDES
COACHAB SILVA
ODDE BUCKPASSER
DOIS LEVIN LIPPI
ALLES EGIN SILATIN



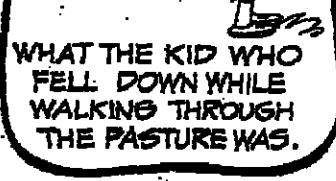
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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PEDYT
LEREC
FONZER
NIGINN



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: ON A

Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: DUMPY FRANG ORCHID BEAUTY

Answer: What the guy who got stuck in a revolving door doesn't get anymore — AROUND MUCH

WORLD

Nuclear disarmament talks enter decisive stage in '83

GENEVA (R) — With a new round of missile talks under way, American and Soviet negotiators are now embarked on what could be a make-or-break year for disarmament.

U.S. officials were analysing the nuances of the latest Soviet position as staked out when 14-month discussions on European-based medium-range nuclear missiles resumed Thursday after a two-month recess.

They said there would be no public comment until U.S. Vice President George Bush comes to Geneva late next week on a 12-day tour during which he will gauge how European governments stand in the current arms control debate.

Separate U.S.-Soviet negotiations on limiting strategic intercontinental missiles begin here next Wednesday.

In the European missile talks, U.S. chief negotiator Paul Nitze and Soviet delegation leader Yuri Kisvinsky will meet again on Tuesday, with NATO diplomats convinced a serious effort to probe for a compromise is now in progress on both sides.

This year is critical in an arms control process that has been going on intermittently between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and their NATO and Warsaw Pact allies since the first strategic arms talks began in 1969.

The NATO alliance has said it will begin basing the first of 572 U.S. medium-range missiles in five West European countries by next December unless agreement is reached in Geneva on mutual limits.

The new American weapons are planned to counter Soviet SS-20 missiles that have been targeted against West European cities since 1977. The U.S. says there are now 333 SS-20s, about 240 based in the European U.S.S.R.

How the missile negotiations are handled could have major implications for NATO unity, for East-West relations and for the outcome of general elections in West Germany on March 6. The planned U.S. missiles are a top issue in the German polls.

NATO planners believe the chances of NATO going ahead with its full missile deployment programme may be seriously reduced if conservative Chancellor Helmut Kohl is defeated by Social Democratic contender Hans-Jochen Vogel.

With the election outcome a paramount concern, West German and other NATO leaders have urged the Reagan administration to show maximum flexibility in Geneva and to consider a compromise formula that would leave some missiles on both sides.

This would mean sidetracking Mr. Reagan's favoured "zero option" solution, under which all U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles would be barred from Europe.

The zero option, still the only official U.S. bargaining position, has been rejected by Moscow and is regarded by many NATO allies as unattainable in present circumstances.

After initial hesitations by the Reagan administration, some of the most intensive negotiations, since World War II, covering both nuclear and conventional weapons, will be continuing in full swing over the next two to three months.

East-West talks on ground forces in Central Europe resumed in Vienna Thursday, and a 40-nation disarmament committee begins a new round in Geneva on Tuesday.

Thirty five governments continue a marathon European security conference in Madrid on Feb. 8.

The Soviet Union has proposed that the Vienna meeting should consider creation of a Central European zone free of battle-field nuclear weapons, those less than medium-range.

Italy ends controversial 'pentiti' law from today

ROME (R) — A controversial Italian law which played a big role in the recent crackdown on Red Brigades guerrillas by encouraging them to become informers will cease to be valid from Saturday, a justice ministry spokesman said Friday.

He said the government would not prolong the so-called "pentiti" (repentants) law under which members of the leftist brigades who confessed or gave tip-offs to the authorities were granted lighter sentences.

There is now a feeling that the law has served its purpose and the Brigades are no longer a sufficiently serious threat to warrant it," the spokesman said.

The measure, attacked by several leading magistrates as unconstitutional but hailed by the police as vital to their assault on the Brigades, was first put forward by the government in 1980 and officially enacted in May 1982.

It is a year since U.S. Gen. James Dozier was freed from a Red Brigades "people's prison" in the first rescue of one of their hostages. A wave of arrests followed and the guerrilla group has not mounted a major operation since.

"Struggle is over"

Thursday, the leftist newspaper La Repubblica published documents sent from prison by the founders of the 15-year-old Red Brigades in which they said the armed struggle against the state was over.

Officials said the law, whose validity was last extended in September, had played a central role in the state's successes against the Brigades both by prompting vital confessions and by provoking sharp divisions within the group.

The ministry spokesman said that, in all, 389 leftist guerrillas from the brigades and the allied "Prima Linea" (Front Line) group had made use of the pentiti law.

Of these, 78 actively and continuously collaborated with the police, 134 confessed to their crimes and gave some information about them and 177 formally renounced the brigades' actions.

Among the leading collaborators was Roberto Santalo, a former Prima Linea leader who has already been freed. Others included Patrizio Peci, a leading Red Brigades member, and Antonio Savasta, an architect of the Dozier kidnapping.

Police upset Camorra plan for retaliation

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Two gunmen planning retaliation against shopkeepers striking in protest at protection rackets run by the Camorra, the Naples mafia, were among 17 people arrested here Thursday, police said.

As most of the 100,000 small businesses in the Naples area stayed closed for the second day, flying squad units pounced on two heavily armed men preparing a "summit meeting" with gang chiefs in a slum hideout near the old port.

Police said 17 suspected gangland figures were taken into custody and arms were seized.

But a caller to the Naples office of the Italian news agency ANSA made it clear that organised crime in Naples would not be deterred by the shopkeepers' strike.

Most of the rackets are dominated by either the "new organised Camorra" of Don Raffaele Cutolo or the "new family" gang. On a more sinister note, the caller added that the strike had been most helpful in identifying what he called "new markets to develop."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Italian president hears about missing brother

ROME (R) — Italian President Sandro Pertini, a World War II resistance hero, has heard for the first time how his elder brother was killed by a Nazi officer on a concentration camp march. The 86-year-old Socialist head of state had an emotional telephone conversation with a north Italian carpenter who said he was on the same force march as the president's brother Eugenio 41 years ago. Martino Longhi told the Milan newspaper Corriere della Sera he saw Eugenio collapse from exhaustion by a roadside on a force march from Flossenbürg. A young German officer walked up and calmly shot him dead in front of the other prisoners, he said.

Marcos shocked by uncensored films

MANILA (R) — Uncensored films, so rare with explicit sex scenes, have gone on view in Manila cinemas as part of a film festival, prompting criticism from the country's leading churchman and expressions of concern from the president. President Ferdinand Marcos was looking into reports that some of the films to be shown in the 12-day festival which began last Monday were originally banned or cut by local censors. A presidential spokesman said, "The Philippine leader, whose wife Imelda is the prize never behind the festival which is in aid of the disabled, was reacting to reports that at least one 'pornographic and violent' film which had been banned would now be shown in cinema and that three others had had cuts restored."

Pakistani students turn against music

KARACHI (R) — A Pakistani Islamic students organisation said in pamphlets distributed here that it was launching a campaign to destroy all musical instruments as they were considered un-Islamic. The right-wing Islamic Jamiat-e-Tulba (Islamic Students Organisation) also vowed to disrupt musical functions and demand the immediate return home of a Soviet cultural troupe now visiting Pakistan. A group of young people ransacked the office of a big hotel here recently after it refused to cancel a musical programme. A musical programme by students of a local medical college in another hotel was held under a heavy police guard. In the first stage, the pamphlet said, the organisation planned to destroy musical instruments used in hotels and educational institutions. The campaign would later be extended to include video cassette recorders and music houses.

U.S. judge rejects Irish brothers' idea

NEW YORK (R) — A federal judge has rejected an application from two Irish brothers that they be allowed to plead not guilty by reason of insanity to charges of attempting to buy guns and missiles for the Irish Republican Army (IRA). Judge Charles Sifton said the application from Colman and Eamon Deehan, 30 and 46 respectively, was in fact an appeal for a lengthy adjournment of their case, which is scheduled for trial next month. He also said the court papers presented by their lawyer offered only a "diagnostic possibility" that the two had been driven insane during their internment in Long Kesh prison in Northern Ireland in the early 1970s. The judge said: "how that mental condition might legally exculpate the defendants from the crimes they are accused of is not even a distant possibility in the court papers."

NAO finds latest Soviet offer unacceptable

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO officials have said a Soviet call to ban all battle-field nuclear weapons from a wide strip in Central Europe was unlikely to be acceptable to the West.

The officials stressed they wanted a chance to study the text of the proposal more carefully, but said, at first sight, a ban was unlikely to prove acceptable to the West as long as the Communist Warsaw Pact enjoyed a big superiority in conventional arms over NATO.

NATO would be ready at some stage to discuss a curb on short-range nuclear weapons but their total elimination from a crucial area would go against the Western alliance's doctrine of flexible response, they said.

NAO's doctrine, the core of its deterrence policy aimed at keeping a potential aggressor guessing at the level of likely response, is that the West could use nuclear weapons first even in the case of a conventional attack from the East.

However, many NATO officials and diplomats think that the alliance could get rid of up to one third of its 6,000 nuclear warheads stockpiled in Europe, preferably through negotiations with the Soviet Union or the Warsaw Pact.

The Soviet proposal, carried by the official TASS news agency, seemed more a suggestion than a formal offer, diplomats noted.

It must be seen in the context of

other recent initiatives by Moscow aimed at influencing Western public opinion and the result of general elections in West Germany on March 6, they said.

West Germany declined to give an early reaction to the Soviet offer but diplomatic sources in Bonn said the government would almost certainly turn it down.

The Soviet plan would embrace virtually the whole of the two German states inside the nuclear-free zone.

The sources said the latest move could be a sign that the Soviet Union feels the effects of its previous disarmament offers on the election campaign have been too easily countered by the centre-right government.

They say the opposition Social Democrats, who have urged greater Western flexibility to the Soviet offer of cuts in medium-range nuclear missiles and made the issue the main plank in their election platform, may be tempted by the nuclear-free zone idea.

Bush's European tour
WASHINGTON (R) — Vice-President George Bush, declaring the U.S. was standing firm in arms talks with the Soviet Union, made a fresh appeal to doubting allies to fall in behind President Reagan's

plan to rid Europe of all medium-range nuclear weapons.

The U.S. plan was "the only moral position", Mr. Bush told a press conference when he announced plans to meet Soviet and U.S. arms negotiators in Geneva next week.

But Mr. Bush said he would offer no new proposals during his seven-nation European tour, an announcement certain to disappoint some West European leaders hoping to see some revised U.S. suggestions for a so-called joint interim reduction of nuclear arms.

Mr. Bush said he was staunchly committed to President Reagan's zero option solution for eliminating all U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe.

He said he was confident European allies would support the Reagan plan and dismissed suggestions that his tour starting on Sunday would be a disaster if he did not offer alternatives.

Mr. Bush said he did not regard his European tour as a negotiating mission but as an opportunity to consult U.S. allies on the Geneva Intermediate-range Nuclear Force (INF) talks. The talks resumed Thursday but were almost immediately adjourned for a week.

Nurses describe Groucho's life

LOS ANGELES (R) — Nurses to the late Groucho Marx said the comedian's companion Erin Fleming would frequently give him tranquilisers, push and scream at him.

"I observed the abusive treatment of a little old man by Miss Fleming. She was the boss and was in complete control of him," one of the nurses, Jean Funari, said.

Evidence was given at a hearing before a Los Angeles superior court in which the Bank of America, administrator of Marx's estate, is suing 42-year-old Miss Fleming for \$1.68 million.

The bank alleges Miss Fleming, an actress, obtained \$400,000, two homes, a Mercedes Benz car and syndication rights to Marx's television shows by exerting undue influence over him.

Marx, a star with his brothers in such classic comedy films as "A

Day at the Races" and "A Night at the Opera," died five years ago at the age of 86.

Another nurse, Terrie McCord, said Miss Fleming, who was Marx's companion for the final seven years of his life, would frequently give him tranquilisers, often against his will and against the wishes of his doctor.

Miss McCord said if she objected on the grounds the doctor had forbidden more medication, Miss Fleming would reply: "If you don't like it, I'll fire you both."

A third nurse, Barbara Bruner, said Miss Fleming tried to suggest Marx was becoming senile and set up psychiatric appointments for him.

"As time went on, he just resigned himself to it, saying 'I guess she's right, she's always right'," Miss Bruner said.

Shultz to visit China in bid to warm up increasingly cold ties

By Roger Crabbe

PEKING (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz comes to China next week aiming to put Sino-American relations back on course after two years of squalls over President Reagan's Taiwan policy and more recently over trade.

Mr. Shultz, who arrives on Feb. 2 for a four-day visit, seems certain to face close questioning and plain speaking on these two issues from Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian.

For his part, Mr. Shultz will be anxious to discuss Peking's tentative steps towards improving its long-frigid relations with Moscow, diplomatic sources in Peking said.

The two men were also expected to hold lengthy discussions on economic cooperation and trade. Trade between their countries topped the \$5-billion mark last year and Western diplomats think it will stay at roughly the same level in 1983.

Among key international issues to be reviewed are the continuing Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, the future of Kampuchea and prospects for arms limitation talks.

The visit will be Mr. Shultz's first to China as secretary of state. His programme provides for the minimum of sightseeing and the maximum of talking, both with Mr. Wu and other leaders.

Textile issue

Diplomatic sources said China would clearly seize the opportunity to discuss the row which broke out earlier this month over Chinese textile exports to the United States.

After negotiations on new quota levels collapsed, the Reagan administration imposed unilateral curbs on Chinese clothing and Peking retaliated by banning purchases of cotton, soybeans and man-made fibres.

"It's a poney war for the present," one Peking diplomat said. "The U.S. textile restrictions are unlikely to have any effect at all on the Chinese for five to six months, while China appears to have chosen the least harmful way to hit back. But the situation could easily go sour."

A senior State Department official in Washington said Mr. Shultz was prepared to discuss the dispute but would not go any negotiating.

The textile issue is just one of several problems between the two countries which have taken on great political importance in the climate of mutual suspicion created by the row over Taiwan.

At one stage last year China threatened to downgrade ties with Washington unless it halted arms deliveries to the Nationalist-ruled island over which Peking claims sovereignty.

After 10 months of hard diplomatic bargaining, a subtle compromise was reached under which China stated its intention of seeking peaceful reunification with Taiwan and the United States, noting this, said it planned gradually to reduce its arms sales.

"The Aug. 17 joint communiqué was an extremely painful compromise for the people on both sides," one Western diplomat in Peking said. "It showed the importance both sides attach to their relationship."

Despite the paper agreement on Taiwan, suspicions remained and both sides expressed disappointment at failure to resolve lesser problems which piled up during the months of wrangling.

Climate of confidence
Diplomatic sources said the

main aim of the Shultz visit was a "process of reacquaintance" to create a climate of confidence for lower level officials to settle the smaller problems.

"I would be very surprised if something of a concrete nature came out of the visit," one Peking source said.

Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Holdridge said in a speech last month that Mr. Shultz's trip should help to renew progress in the Sino-American relationship and he expressed confidence that the two countries could return to "an active, serious, constructive and statesmanlike dialogue."

On Peking's relations with Moscow, U.S. officials in Washington privately questioned how far the two Communist powers could go in resolving the deep differences which have separated them for two decades.

The vice foreign ministers of the two sides started talks in October aimed at "removing obstacles to friendship," but not date has been set for their resumption.

China had denied it was playing its "Russian card" to spite President Reagan. "The improvement of Sino-Soviet relations is by no means directed against any other

country," said an official commentator.

Rapprochement far away

Diplomatic sources in Peking said that, while Washington would clearly be concerned by a genuine Sino-Soviet rapprochement, it clearly believed this was a long way off.

In the meantime, the sources said, President Reagan could only applaud the conditions Peking had set for improving ties. "It would be difficult for the United States to object to the removal of Soviet troops poised along China's border," one analyst said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—North opened the bidding fourth hand with one no trump. This was passed round to my partner, who balanced with a double. I held:

♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

I bid two clubs and my partner bid two spades. The hand was a disaster. My partner said she took my bid as being the Stayman Convention, and that I should have rebid three clubs. I maintained that Stayman does not apply after an opposing no trump opening bid. We would appreciate your opinion.—Clare Leroux, Cincinnati, Ohio

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.) A.—You seem to play in a strange game. Let's be kind and give North an absolute maximum for his no trump opening bid, i.e., 18 points. Now let's presume that your partner, who passed originally, had an absolute maximum of 12 points. Add to that your 1 point and you still come up with only 31. What was South doing passing his partner's no trump opening when he held at least 9 points?

Next, your partner was courting disaster when she stepped into the auction. Since she did not bid a suit, we must suppose that her hand was reasonably balanced. She and North between them held at least 28 points. If we split the remainder of the points between you and South, your side would still

be outgunned 22-18. It is asking for trouble to try to make eight tricks under those circumstances. It seems to me that a pass would have been more circumspect.

Last, you are right. In the situation you describe, the Stayman Convention does not apply. Your bid of two clubs simply showed a long club suit and a hand not good enough to play for penalties against one no trump doubled.

Q.—In your books, I find that, in rubber bridge, the deal passes to the player on the dealer's left if a hand is passed out. However, I have often been taken to task at my bridge club for suggesting this. They maintain that the same player must redeal, rather than the hand be scored as a zero and we get on to the next hand.—L.S., Buffalo, N.Y.

A.—I can only presume that, at your bridge club, you are playing either Chicago Bridge or that each round consists of six deals. In that event, a redeal is correct.

Q.—I have a feeling that playing Chicago Bridge produces higher total scores over a period than does straight rubber bridge. Has anyone ever attempted to evaluate this difference?—G. E. Eberhart, Cincinnati, Ohio A.—Not statistically, as far as I know. However, experts at this form of the game assure me that the scores run 20 percent to 25 percent higher, and my own experience would tend to bear this out.

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